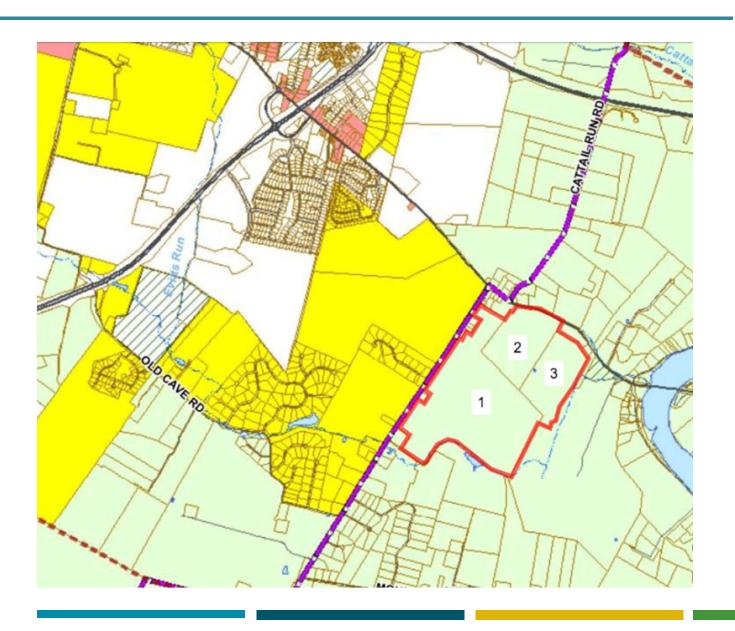
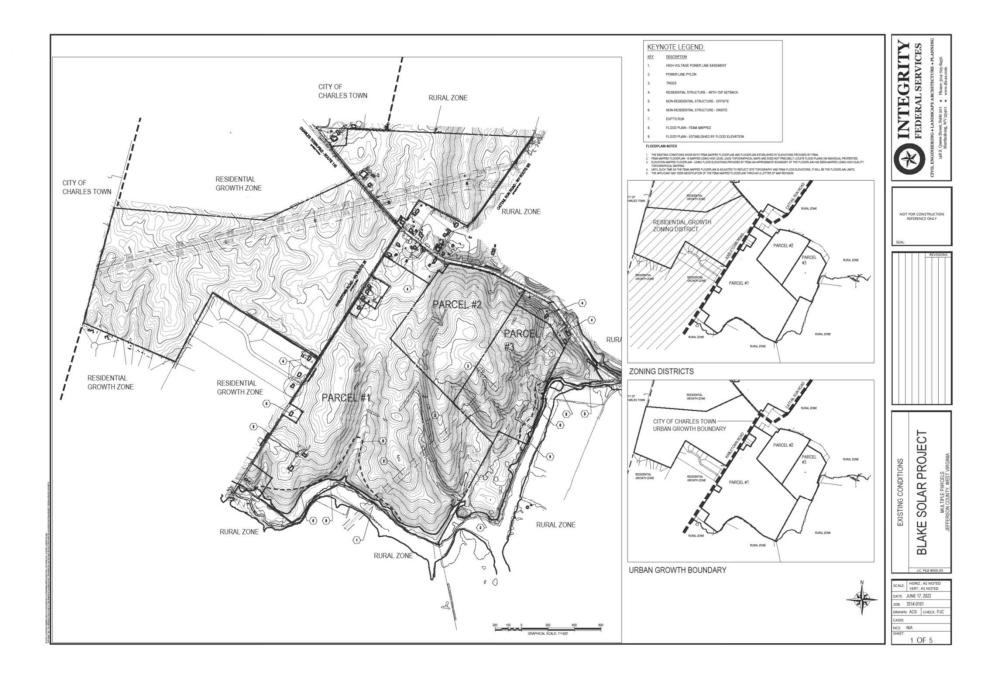
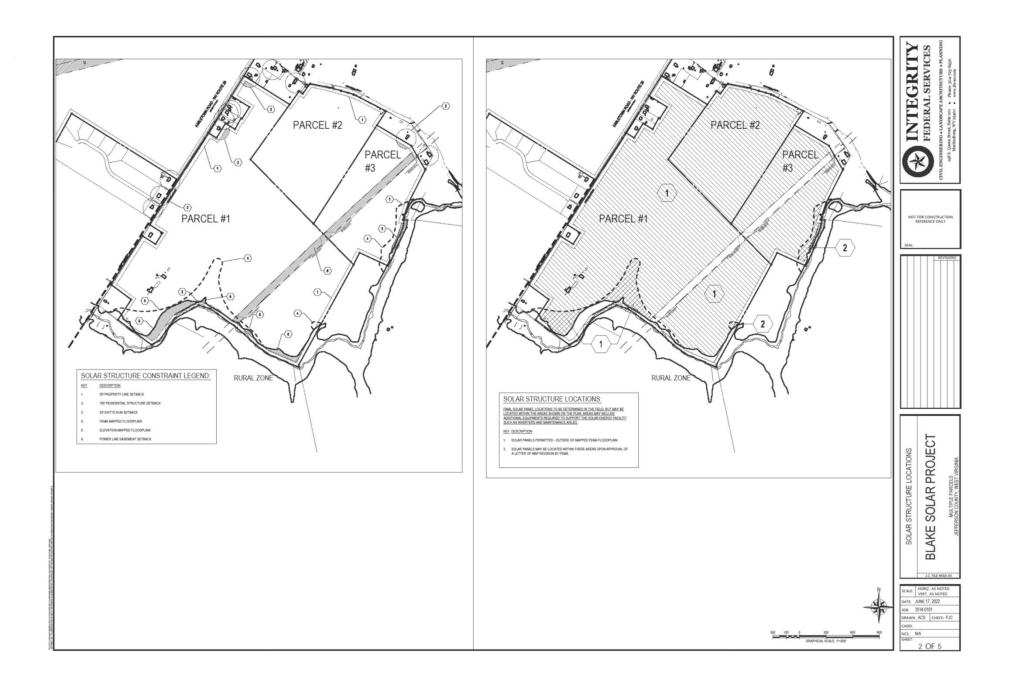
## BLAKE SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY CUP

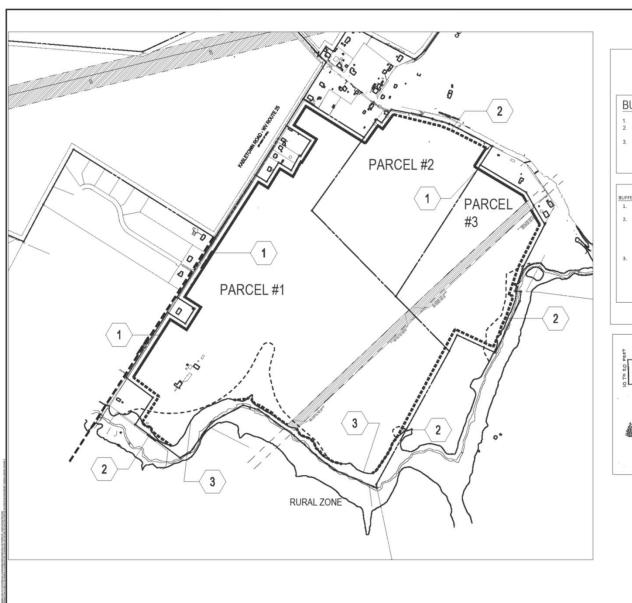


## **Project Overview**

- The Blake Solar Facility CUP is a 270 acre section of the larger 516 acre project. The balance of the project is located in the Charles Town Urban Growth Boundary and permitted by-right
- The project is an 80MW solar facility and will be an important component of the regional energy grid
- Project cost is projected to be \$142,000,000. Employment compensation for the project is estimated at \$11,200,000
- The project will be one of the largest tax generators in Jefferson County
- The project will result in the preservation of land that can be used for agriculture in the future.







#### **BUFFER LEGEND:**

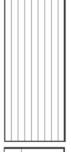
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER PROVIDED LANDSCAPE BUFFER PROVIDED WHEN SOLAR PANELS ARE WITHIN 100' OF THE PROPERTY LINE.
- SOLAR PANELS WILL NOT BE WITHIN 100' OF PROPERTY LINE DUE TO SITE CONSTRAINTS. NO BUFFER REQUIRED.

#### BUFFER AND SCREENING NOTES

- ALL LANDSCAPE BUFFERS WILL BE A "OPTION F" TYPE AS DEFINED IN THE JEFFERSON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE.
  A LANDSCAPE BUFFER WILL BE PROVIDED AS FOLLOWS
- a. WHEN SOLAR PANELS ARE LOCATED CLOSER THAN 100' TO A PROPERTY LINE
- b. WHEN SOLAR PANELS ARE LOCATED WITHIN 500' OF AN OFFSITE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE
- c. WHERE THE SUBJECT PROPERTIES FRONT ON KABLETOWN ROAD.
- A LANDSCAPE BUFFER WILL NOT BE REQUIRED IN THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
  WHERE EXISTING VEGETATION MEETS PROVIDES A DENSE SCREEN AND IS A MINIMUM OF 50' IN WIDTH.
- b. WITHIN POSER LINE EASEMENTS
- c. ACROSS SITE ACCESS LOCATIONS.



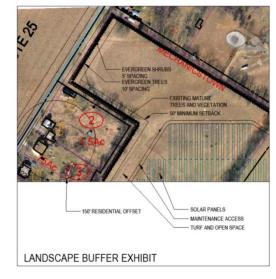




BLAKE SOLAR PROJECT

3514-0101



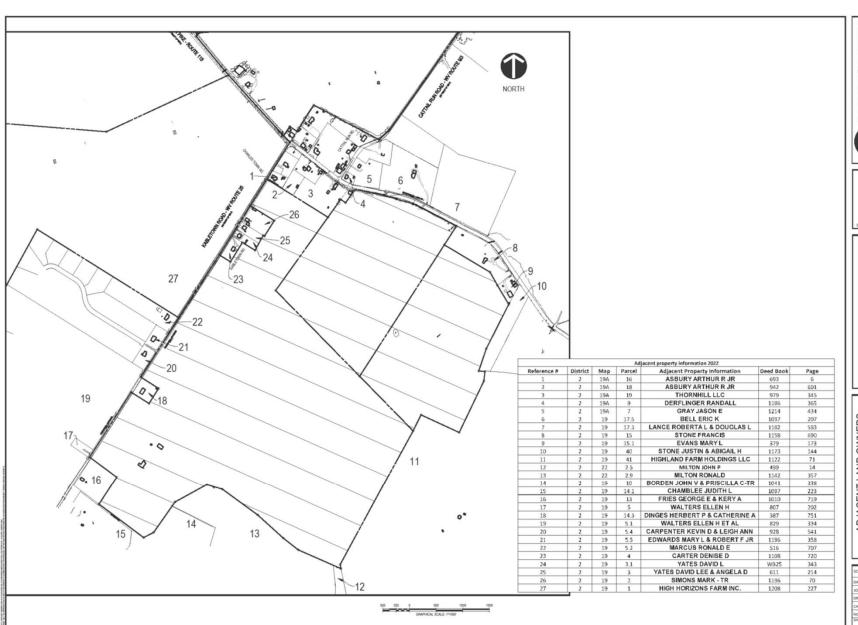




BLAKE SOLAR PROJECT

- 2. SOLAR PANEL AND EQUIPMENT LOCATIONS MAY BE ADJUSTED WITHIN THE PERMITTED AREA.
- LANDSCAPE BUFFERS TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH JEFFERSON COUNTY REGULATIONS AND ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS INCLUDED AS PART OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT.

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ADJACENT LAND OWNERS SOLAR PROJECT BLAKE (

DATE: 06/21/2022 JOB: 3514-0101 DRAWN: ACS CHECK: PJC

5 OF 5

## **Project Details**

Total CUP site area – 270 acres

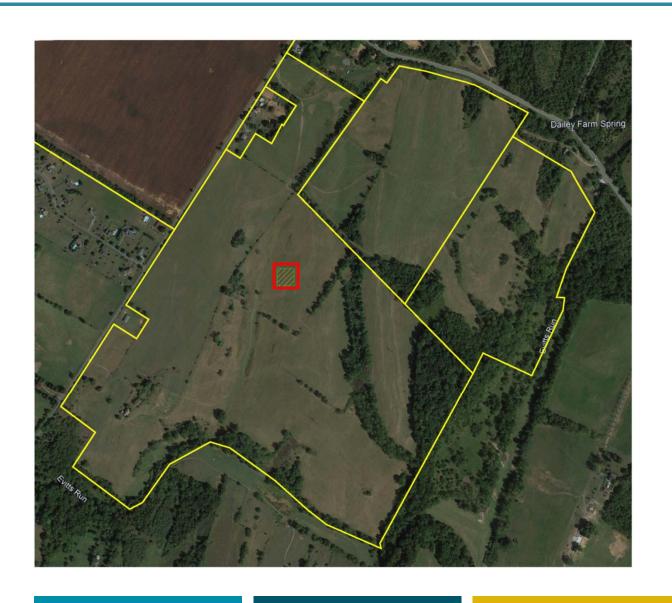
Impervious surface (posts and inverters) – 23,300sf (0.2% of site)

Solar Panel Area – 70 acres (25.9% of site)

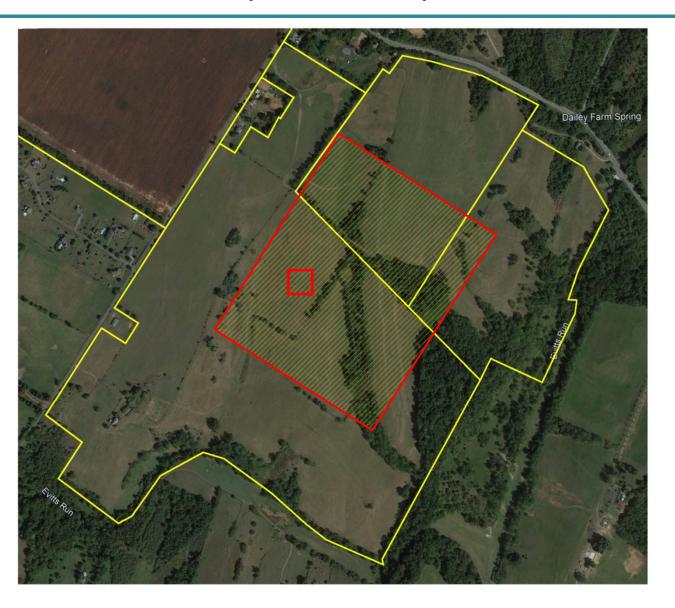
Open Space – 200 acres (74.1% of site)

Calculations are based on the current layout of solar panels on site, this layout may be revised but a significant change will not occur.

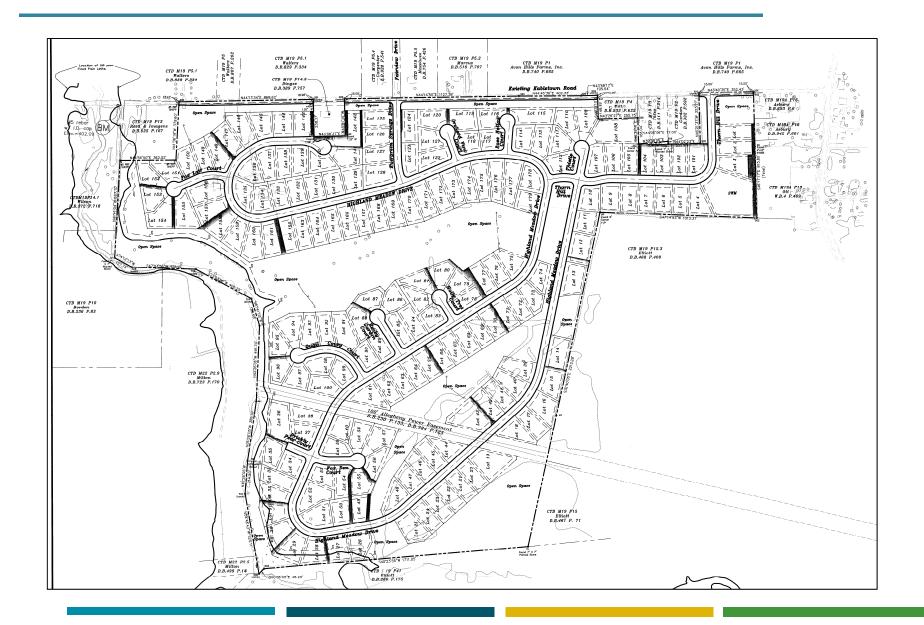
## Impervious Surfaces (Net Area)



## Solar Panels (Net Area)



## Thornhill Subdivision



### **Buffers**

REQUIRED BUFFER — landscape buffers are required for solar panels closer than 50' to a property line and within 200' of a residence.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUFFER – landscape buffers provided voluntarily by the Applicant.

- Along the entire length of the Kabletown Road frontage.
- Within 500' of an offsite residential structure.
- As shown on the landscape buffer exhibit.

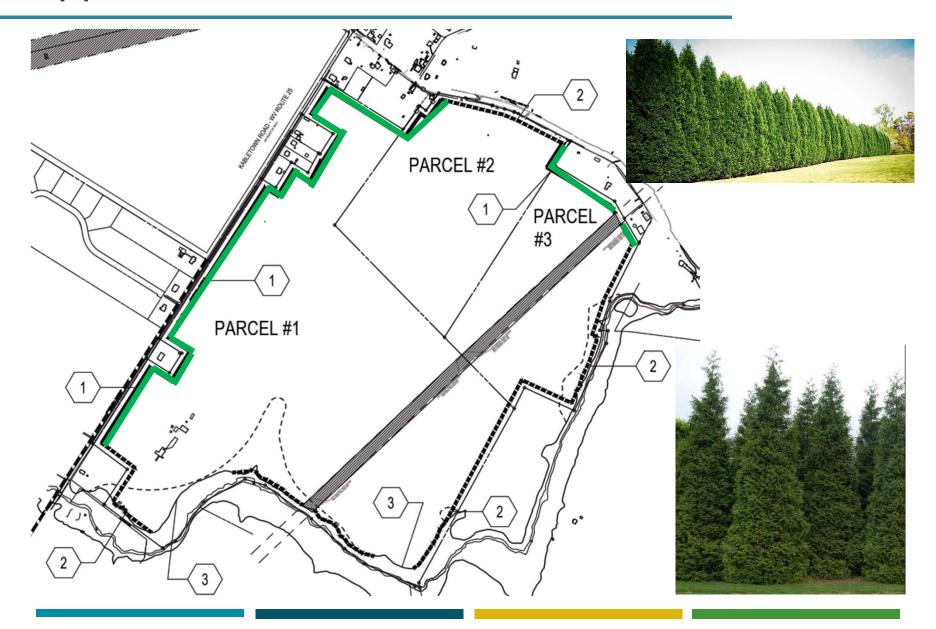


**Unscreened Solar Panels** 



Screened solar panels

## Supplemental Buffer Location



## Regulatory Permitting

- 1. Jefferson County Stormwater Management Ordinance
- 2. Jefferson County Concept Plan
- 3. West Virginia Department of Highways Entry Permits
- West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection NPDES Permit (Erosion and Sediment Control)
- 5. West Virginia Decommissioning Plan and Bonding

## Decommissioning and Bonding

The solar energy facility will be constructed leased and operated by Horus West Virginia I, a subsidiary of OPDEnergy. Construction of the project will be completed in a single phase. The project is part of a larger solar energy facility, a portion of which is a principal permitted use.

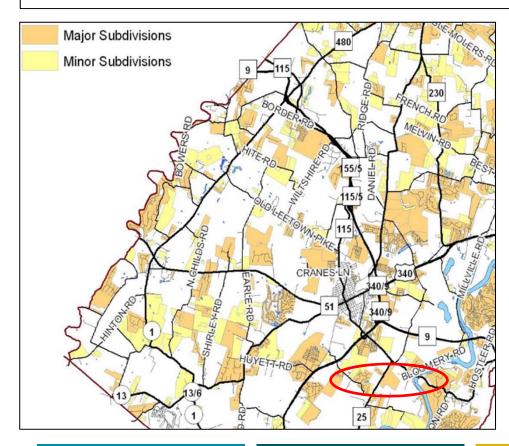
The expected useful life of the Project as initially constructed is 30 years. This can be extended by regular maintenance and replacement of equipment.

Upon decommissioning of the facility, the equipment will be removed down to a depth of 3 feet below grade and any disturbed ground will be restored and reseeded with an approved seed mix.

Decommissioning and bonding shall be in accordance with the WV Department of Environmental Protection.

## Comprehensive Plan

Most of the subject property is identified as a major subdivision in the comprehensive Plan. This land use is of higher intensity and scale than the proposed use.



# Comprehensive Plan – Recommendations and Goals

"Recommendation 10/11-8 <u>Encourage public entities to utilize alternative</u> and renewable energy sources for a variety of energy needs, specifically Solar Energy Facilities in areas inside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area as a Principal Permitted Use, and outside of the Urban Growth Boundary and the Preferred Growth Area, by the Conditional Use Process."

"Recommendation 10/11-8.a Enable the construction of renewable energy generation facilities by residents and businesses."

"It is widely recognized that many of the resources that we rely on to heat, cool, and light homes, power electronics, provide transportation fuel, and other daily needs are finite. Consequently, there has been an increasing need to assess the viability of alternative and renewable energy sources that may assist in maintaining the quality of life of Jefferson County's residents and businesses."

# Comprehensive Plan – Recommendations and Goals

"There must be a viable rural economy to maintain the rural landscape."

Recommendation 24-14 Consider implementation of alternative energy systems as they become more efficient and cost effective in facilities owned and maintained by the County or other public entities.

"Goal #10 - Objective #9: Encourage the creation of and use of a variety of energy sources (including renewable energy) within Jefferson County in ways that respect the character of the County."

# Comprehensive Plan – Agricultural and Rural Economy Recommendations

The Comprehensive Plan has 17 Recommendations under Goal 8. The goals either do not apply or support the proposed facility.

#### Do Not Apply

- Support "Right to Farm" policies that reduce conflict between agriculture and residential uses.
- 2. Reduce residential density through clustering.
- 6. Coordinate with the JCDA to market farm goods.
- 7. Work with agricultural community to distribute agricultural products.
- 8. Coordinate with stakeholders to expand marketing
- 9. Collaborate with local artisan community
- 10. Create a Agricultural Committee of the JCDA
- 11. Create a regional agricultural industrial park
- 12. Promote and expand equine industry
- 13. Establish Culinary Center for marketing agricultural goods
- 14. Expand vocational programs for agricultural opportunities
- 15. Coordinate with Jefferson County Schools to encourage agriculture.
- 16. Encourage WVU to create mentoring and training programs.
- 17. Support the County's rural economic strategy by working with the state Legislature.

# Comprehensive Plan – Agricultural and Rural Economy Recommendations

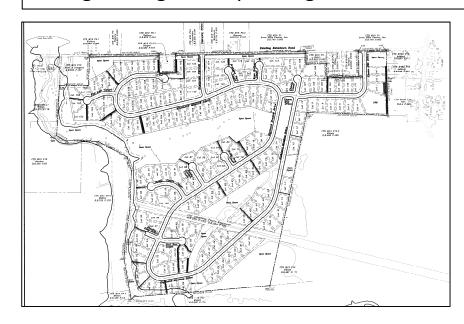
#### **SUPPORT SOLAR FACILITIES**

- 3. Support the rural economy by <u>amending</u> the Subdivision Regulations to establish rural business site plan standards.
- Jefferson County amended the stormwater management regulations, a subsection of the Subdivision Regulations to support solar facilities.
- 4. Collaborate with agricultural community on land use regulations
- The agricultural community strongly supported the modifications to the zoning ordinance that would allow solar.
- Amend the Zoning and Land Development Ordinance to permit additional non-residential rurally compatible uses.
- The Jefferson County has amended the zoning ordinance to permit solar facilities as a Conditional Use.

## Intensity and Scale

The proposed CUP is a low intensity use that does not generate traffic, noise or pollution. The proposed use is of significantly less intensity and than the Thornhill single family residential subdivision.

The project poses no threat to the public health safety and welfare. The solar energy facility will be a quiet neighbor screened from adjacent properties. There is a strong argument that the project will enhance public safety through the strengthening of the power grid.





## Future Land Use on Adjacent Properties

The proposed use has no impact on the use and development of adjacent lands/buildings. It cannot be impacted by development on adjacent lands and would not be a factor in the approval of projects on the adjacent properties.

# Neighborhood Character/Landscape Buffers Appendix B, Section 4.11

Since the proposed use is a passive one, with minimal traffic, additional residents or the impacts of a commercial/retail uses it will have a small impact on the neighborhood character.

All panels will be setback from public roads and existing residences.

Supplemental landscape buffers have been proposed that exceed the requirements of the Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance. The project is largely screened from public view.

## Roadway Adequacy

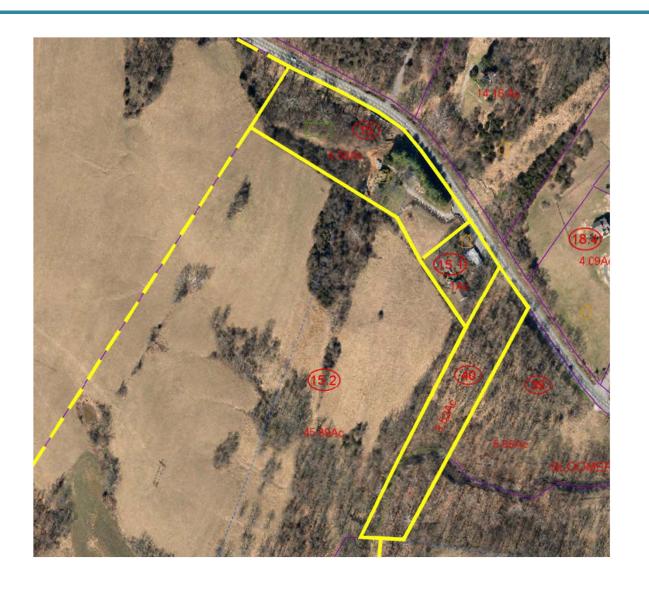
The project will generate minimal traffic and will not have any impact on roadway capacity.

### **Historic Sites**

The site is not adjacent to any Category I Historic Resources as identified by the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission.

The Applicant has completed an archaeological study of the property and submitted it to Jefferson County. The study find any archaeological concerns related to the development of the solar facility.

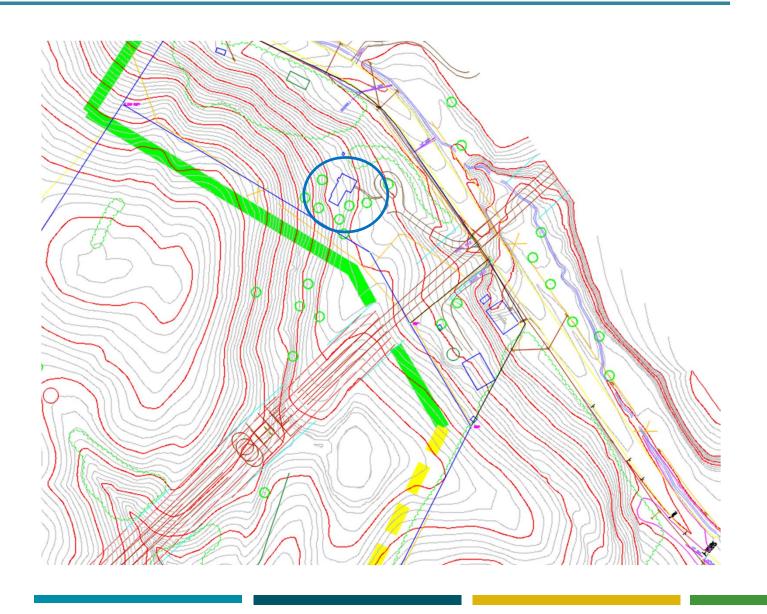
## Adjacent Residential - Location



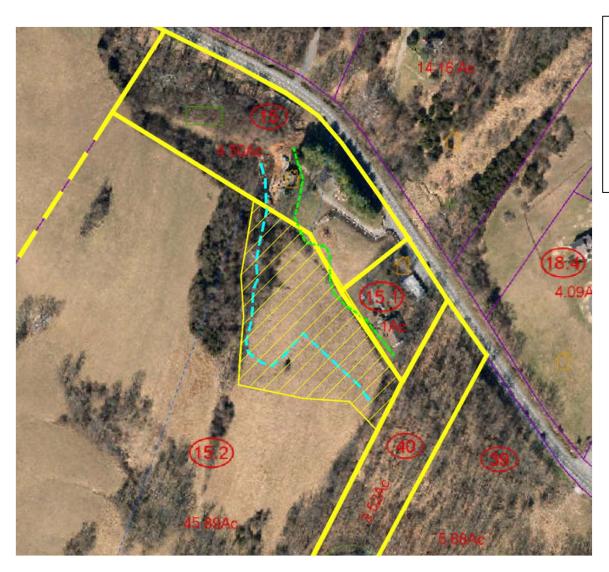
## Adjacent Residential - Street View



## Adjacent Residential – Contour Map

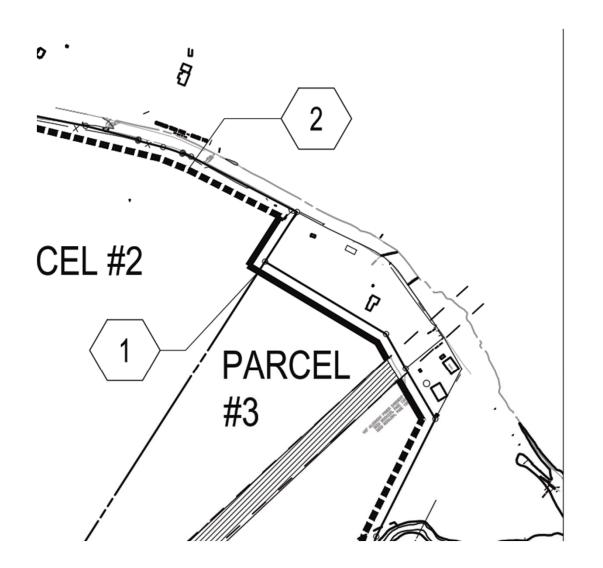


## Adjacent Residential – Elevation/Viewshed



Elevation at house 400' +/-Elevation of site 420' +/-

## Adjacent Residential – Landscape Buffer



### **BUFFER LEGEND:**

- LANDSCAPE BUFFER PROVIDED
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER PROVIDED W PROPERTY LINE.
- SOLAR PANELS WILL NOT BE WITH CONSTRAINTS. NO BUFFER REQU

#### **BUFFER AND SCREENING NOTES**

- ALL LANDSCAPE BUFFERS WILL BE A JEFFERSON COUNTY ZONING ORDIN.
- A LANDSCAPE BUFFER WILL BE PROV
  - a. WHEN SOLAR PANELS ARE LOCA
  - WHEN SOLAR PANELS ARE LOCA' STRUCTURE
  - c. WHERE THE SUBJECT PROPERTIE
- A LANDSCAPE BUFFER WILL NOT BE
  - a. WHERE EXISTING VEGETATION N

### Conclusion

The project is supported by the Comprehensive Plan.

The project is compatible with adjacent land uses.

The project meets the conditions and requirements of a Conditional Use Permit in Jefferson County